

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 11, 2023**

1. Call to Order

A. Vice Mayor Shalhoub called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following officials were present:

Paul R. Shalhoub, Mayor
Robert M. W. Shalhoub, Vice Mayor
Gregory Freebold, President Pro Tem
Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Council Member
Robert O. Gonzalez, Council Member

B. Moment of Silence, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Shalhoub requested a moment of silence for Carrie Ward, retired Riviera Beach City Clerk and Amy Aquino, sister of Assistant Chief Sal Abruscato. Pastor Hunter, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, gave the invocation then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

After performing his last duty as a member of the Town Council, Mayor Shalhoub noted that he is proud of the many things that had been accomplished during the past 6 years that he has been on the Town Council. He thanked the Town Council, Mr. Clark and Town staff for their assistance with this. He also thanked the residents that helped and supported his campaign. He noted that he will continue his service to the Town as a volunteer and community member. He then turned the meeting over to Vice Mayor Shalhoub and left the dais.

C. Oath of Office was administered to

Council Member Group 1 – Gregory Freebold by Charles Schoech
Council Member Group 2 – Jon Maples by his wife, Kristi Maples and his daughter, Bella Maples

Council Member Maples thanked Mayor Shalhoub for his years of service to the Town and stated that he is looking forward to serving the residents of Lake Clarke Shores.

D. Reorganization of the Town Council

Nominations for Mayor, Vice Mayor and President Pro Tem.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub asked for nominations for Mayor, Vice Mayor and President Pro Tem.

Motion made by Council Member Rodriguez to appoint Gregory Freebold as Mayor, Robert M. W. Shalhoub as Vice Mayor and himself as President Pro Tem, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez; Motion approved (5-0).

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Council Member Gonzalez to approve the Agenda, seconded by President Pro Tem Rodriguez; Motion approved (5-0).

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Town Council Meeting.
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the March 16, 2023 Workshop.
- C. Approval of Resolution 2023-04 – Proclaiming the results of the March 14, 2023 Municipal Election.
- D. Approval of Resolution 2023-05 – Expressing appreciation to Paul R. Shalhoub for his exemplary service as a member of the Town Council.
- E. *Approval of Resolution 2023-07 – Relating to the State Revolving Fund Loan Program; authorizing the loan application and designating authorized representatives.*
- F. Approval of Resolution 2023-08 – Authorizing the Mayor to execute the State-Funded Grant Agreement up to the maximum amount of \$600,000 for the Pine Tree Lane Bridge Safety Upgrades.
- G. Approval of Proclamation proclaiming April 2023 as “Water Conservation Month”.

Motion made by Council Member Gonzalez to approve the Consent Agenda after moving Item 3 E. to New Business Item 8 B. for discussion, seconded by Council Member Maples; Motion approved (5-0).

4. Presentations

- A. None

5. Quasi-Judicial Proceedings

- A. None

6. Public Hearing

- A. None

7. Unfinished Business

- A. None

8. New Business

- A. Approval of Resolution 2023-06 – Expressing appreciation to Jon Maples for his exemplary service as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Council Member Maples cited a conflict of interest and as such, did not participate in the discussion or vote.

Motion made by President Pro Tem Rodriguez to approve Resolution 2023-06, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez; Motion approved (4-0).

After the vote, Council Member Maples continued with the meeting.

B. Approval of Resolution 2023-07 – Relating to the State Revolving Fund Loan Program; authorizing the loan application and designating authorized representatives. Moved from the consent agenda

Mr. Clark explained that the Town is required to have matching funds available in order to receive grants from the State. Approval of Resolution 2023-07 would allow the Town to set up a State Revolving Fund loan to match any State grant that the Town may receive. He noted that the Town would not be borrowing money unless the Town receives a grant.

Council Member Gonzalez explained that approval of this resolution does not mean that the Town will be locked into installing sewers. He noted it just gives the Town matching funds to put the Town into position to receive any grant money that may come from the State.

Council Member Maples asked for clarification on the project number noted in the Resolution. He also asked about the interest rate and if the Town has looked at other means to obtain the money besides getting a loan, so that the revolving debt does not cause problems for residents that cannot afford to make the payments.

It was noted that the project number came from the Department of Environmental Protection when the Town requested state funding and that the interest rates would be based on the amount borrowed, but at a much lower interest rate than conventional loans. It was reiterated that the Town is required to show the State that matching funds are available in order to receive grant money and that approval of the resolution does not mean that the Town is getting a loan at this time.

Motion made by President Pro Tem Rodriguez to approve Resolution 2023-07, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez; Motion approved (4-1) with Council Member Maples opposed.

9. Audience Comments

The following residents discussed the approval of Resolution 2023-07 and septic to sewer issues:

Fran Carlton, 8432 Waterway Drive
Kathryn Workman, 8031 Pine Tree Lane
Jennifer Chrzanowski, 7130 Pine Tree Lane
Ashok Kulkarni, 8131 West Lake Drive
Jeff Shahin, 8121 Pine Tree Lane

Debbie Piescik, 7209 Clarke Drive – asked that the hedges between her property and Town Hall Park be allowed to grow to a height of 6 feet. It was noted that staff will contact ABM to let them know not to trim the hedges until they reach 6 feet.

George Scher, 1600 Barbados Road – discussed the continued noise from those that are renting the pavilion at Town Hall Park. It was suggested to prohibit all amplified music within the Town's parks.

Joe Lopez, 7130 Venetian Way – asked about the plans for Pine Tree Bridge. Mr. Clark noted that the bridge will be totally replaced and that Mr. Lopez is welcome to come to Town Hall and view the plans.

Bernadette Shalhoub, 8429 West Lake Drive – discussed the various Town Council Members and their accomplishments. She also thanked staff for all that they do for the Town and welcomed Council Member Maples to the Town Council.

Angie Contreras, 4188 Emerald Vista in Lake Worth – discussed the conduct of the meeting and noted that the candidate names listed on ballot from the Town's March 14th election were not in alphabetical order as required by State Statutes.

Fran Carlton, 8432 Waterway Drive – discussed the problem with the loud music in the parks. She suggested that the Town follow the PBC ordinance on amplified music.

10. Status Report

Chief Adams, PBC Fire Rescue – noted the number of calls that they responded to during the past month. She also noted that they have hired 30 new employees. She thanked the Town for inviting her to the BBQ and noted that PBC Fire Rescue had 2 units present during the festivities.

Chief Smith – reviewed the information contained in his report. He noted the number of arrests made, the number of traffic stops, the number of citations issued and the statistics from the LPR cameras. He also noted that Marine One is back in service and that the officers received training in active shooter response. He noted that there has not been much increase in Town traffic from the Florida Mango road closure since FDOT has designated Congress Avenue as the detour.

Mr. Schoech – noted that he has completed a preliminary draft of the trailer ordinance and will be finalizing it soon. He hopes to have it ready by the next meeting.

Mr. Clark – noted that he will be moving back to Washington after he retires and is trying to downsize before the move. He noted that he would be willing to sell the Town some of his sound equipment that the Town has been currently using, if they would be interested. Mayor Freebold asked Mr. Clark to put a list of the items together for the Town Council's review so a decision can be made.

11. Council Comments

The Town Council responded to the audience comments regarding noise levels from the pavilion in the park and ways to resolve this, the vacation rental legislation taking place in Tallahassee, water quality of the lake and canals, Resolution 2023-07 and other sewer issues. They also discussed the conduct of the meeting, noted that the Town Council is

available for questions and/or comments at any time, not just during Town Council meetings and reiterated that a decision has not been made on septic to sewer conversion.

Council Member Maples – thanked the residents for their support and attendance at the meeting. He noted that he is looking forward to working with the Town Council and residents.

He also discussed changing the seating arrangements back to the way they were before COVID, to allow for more audience seating.

Council Member Gonzalez – welcomed Council Member Maples to the Council and acknowledged Paul Shalhoub's service to the Town during his tenure on the Council. He thanked Mr. Clark for advocating for the Town while in Tallahassee. He offered his condolences to Assistant Chief Abruscato on the passing of his sister and thanked all of the Police Officers for their work to keep the Town safe.

He also thanked staff for their work on the BBQ and Mrs. Beth Clark for her many years of service as the volunteer leader of the BBQ Food Line.

President Pro Tem Rodriguez – Congratulated Council Member Maples and welcomed him to the Council. He noted that State Statutes regarding the order of candidate names on the ballot will be adhered to for all future Town elections.

He also noted the March 24th Movie Night was well attended and that the BBQ was amazing.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub – noted the new requirement regarding Public Disclosure for elected officials will be up for vote by the Legislators.

He thanked everyone that volunteered for the BBQ and acknowledged the Town staff that went above and beyond to make the BBQ a success. He also thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Freebold – discussed the Fishing Tournament that took place on April 8th. He noted that there were 19 boats participating in the event. He noted that the weather conditions were not favorable and the water quality was not very clear, but everyone had a great time anyway. He also noted the winning catch weight and the accumulative fish weight. He thanked all the sponsors and those that donated to the event.

He also reminded everyone about the Waterway Clean-up on April 15th and encouraged everyone to volunteer.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Council Member Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, seconded by President Pro Tem Rodriguez; Motion approved (5-0).

Gregory Freebold, Mayor

Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk